



*With the Medical
Officer's Compliments*



CHEADLE and GATLEY

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



Medical Officer's Report

. . For the Year 1897. . .



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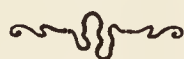
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To the Chairman and Members of the Cheadle and Gatley Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I BEG to present my Annual Report of the Cheadle and Gatley Urban District for the year 1897 in which in accordance with the regulations of the Local Government Board, I shall have to repeat several of the facts which have been stated in previous Annual Reports.

The district, which is principally residential and agricultural, has increased during the past year much more rapidly than in previous years, the increase being most marked in the Cheadle Hulme Ward, where a large number of villa residences as well as cottages have been built. No new manufacturing premises have been erected during the year.

The number of deaths registered in the district from December 31st, 1896, to December 31st, 1897, was 160, which included 22 at the Royal Lunatic Asylum, 24 at the Convalescent Hospital, and one at the Warehousemen and Clerks' School, so, excluding institutions, 113 belonged to the district proper. The number of births registered in the same period was 198. The population of the district, excluding the institutions census 1891—7,540 and the population estimated to the middle of 1897—8790. Calculated by estimating the increase of the number of births over that of the deaths, and the increase in the number of new houses occupied (91) allowing 5 persons to each house.

Comparing the year 1897 with 1896, the number of deaths registered in the district in 1897 was 113; in 1896, 134, decrease 21. The number of births registered in 1897 was 198; in 1896, 199, decrease, 1.

The Death rate, excluding institutions, population 8790 per 1,000, for 1897—12·85, in 1896—16·21.

The Birth rate, excluding institutions, population 8790, per 1,000, for 1897—22·52, in 1896—24·12.

In 1897 29·2% of the deaths were over 65 years of age, in 1896—28·3%, in 1895—32%.

In 1897—26·5% of the deaths were under 1 year of age, in 1896—20·8%. in 1895—16%.

Deaths under one year of age, per 1,000 births registered—151·5, in 1896—140·7.

The ages, special causes of death, and the area of the district, will be found in tables A and B which are appended.

The infant mortality was due mostly to Bronchitis and Diarrhœa, which diseases caused 15 out of 30 deaths registered under one year of age. The deaths from Diarrhœa all occurred in the 3rd quarter of the year, and besides these, there was one registered as due to enteritis.

There was one inquest during the year on a baby which was found drowned in the river Mersey.

During the year, excluding institutions, there were 69 cases of Infectious Disease notified, as compared with 36 cases in 1896; 74 in 1895, and 52 in 1894. An increase over 1896 of 33, a decrease of 5 over 1895.

The number of cases notified of each disease was as follows :—

Smallpox	...	in 1897 none; in 1896 none.			
Scarlatina	...	„	56	„	21, increase 35.
Diphtheria	...	„	3	„	none. „ 3.
Enteric Fever	...	„	6	„	12, decrease 6.
Puerperal Fever...	„	„	none	„	none.
Membranous Croup	„	„	1	„	none, increase 1.
Erysipelas	...	„	3	„	3.

At the Convalescent Hospital there were 13 cases notified—viz., 3 cases of Scarlet Fever and 10 of Erysipelas, as compared with one of Scarlet Fever and one of Erysipelas in 1896. The 3 cases of Scarlet Fever and 6 cases of Erysipelas were sent to Monsall Fever Hospital, the remainder were isolated and treated at Cheadle.

At the Royal Asylum no cases of Infectious Diseases were notified, and also at the Warehousemen and Clerks' School no Infectious Disease was notified.

The great increase in the number of cases of infectious Disease notified during 1897 as compared with 1896 may partly be accounted for by the fact that owing to the mild type of the Scarlet Fever which prevailed, some of the parents did not recognise the disease, and consequently allowed their children to run about whilst desquamating. It was also not generally known that the parents, as well as the medical man in attendance, were bound to notify cases of Scarlet Fever or other infectious disease, mentioned in the Public Healths Acts, and if there was no medical gentleman in attendance, that the parents or those in charge of the patient were bound to notify if they suspected any infectious disease named in the Act. In consequence of this ignorance of the Act, your Council ordered notices to be posted all over the district and handbills to be distributed to all the cottages, calling the attention of parents to the compulsory notification of infectious disease. Your inspector found on two or three occasions when disinfecting houses, in the room where the infected person had been, books belonging to various lending libraries in the Village. I therefore interviewed the librarians who authorised me to destroy any book which was found in any infected room, which was done.

Whenever a case of infectious disease was notified, I visited the house at once and with the medical gentleman in attendance and your inspector, took all possible precautions to check any further spread of the disease. As soon as the medical

gentleman in attendance on the case has informed me that the house is ready for disinfection it has been our usual custom to fumigate with sulphur. The result so far has been fairly satisfactory, although it is not considered a perfect method of disinfection. Disinfection by steam of infected articles is at present considered the most satisfactory and perfect method and your Council gave me instructions to report on the various steam disinfectors now in use. This I have done, and your Council has had the report printed. I hope that your Council will, ere long, erect one for the use of the district.

SMALLPOX.

No case of Smallpox was notified during the year.

SCARLET FEVER.

Fifty-six cases were notified during the year, of which 43 were over 5 years of age and 13 under 5 years of age. The disease was of a mild type, and no case proved fatal. They were distributed over the district as follows:—Cheadle Ward, 36; Gatley, 11; Long Lane, 5; Cheadle Heath, 3; Adswold, 1.

Of the 36 cases in Cheadle, 19 were in 8 families. In the earlier part of the year there were several cases at one of the infant schools in the Village. I went with your Inspector and inspected all the children, but, although I made most careful enquiries, I was unable to trace the origin of the disease. In the later part of the year the majority of cases occurred amongst the scholars attending another day school in the Village. This I frequently visited and inspected the children, and the master kindly undertook to let me know if any suspicious case of illness arose amongst the children. This school was well fumigated and cleaned down with the satisfactory result that no case was reported for the last two months of the year. On two or three occasions when visiting the houses immediately after receiving the notifications I found

that the patients were disquimating and that one had been allowed to run about before the process of disquimating had properly ceased. This may probably account for the increase in the number of cases, for there is difficulty in deciding as to the most infectious period.

One case was reported to me by your Inspector which had not been notified. On visiting I ascertained that no medical gentleman had been called in, and that the parents did not know that it was their duty to notify the case.

Of the eleven cases in Gatley, six were in two families, two cases in one family appeared to have received the infection while on a visit to Blackpool, and of the remaining nine, three patients attended the day school where there were several cases, and as far as I could ascertain this was the cause of the other cases. One of the cases at Cheadle Heath also took the infection from this day school, the other cases from outside the district, as did the case in Adswood. The cases at Long Lane require no special comment. As there were no proper means of nursing at home, two cases, one of which was a Parish case, through the courtesy of Dr. Porter, Medical Officer of Health for Stockport, were sent to the Stockport Fever Hospital.

DIPHTHERIA and MEMBRANOUS CROUP.

Four cases were notified and two proved fatal. In three cases I found the sanitary arrangements of the houses defective ; in one case the drain, having been blocked, had just been opened ; in another the parents complained very much of the stench arising from the privy and ashpit, and in the third the parents also complained of the foul smells arising from the drains. In one case the anti-toxin treatment was used as soon as the case was seen, but without success.

TYPHOID FEVER.

Six cases were notified as compared with twelve in the previous year. They all occurred in Cheadle ; in one case the

patient contracted the disease while nursing a case in Reddish and came to the district suffering from the disease; in two cases the patients had been in Blackpool and had eaten some mussels which had been gathered from one of the piers. In the the three remaining cases one patient contracted the disease while nursing her husband, an outdoor labourer, the origin of which I was unable to trace. As she was a parish patient and had nobody to look after her she was sent to the Stockport Fever Hospital. In no case had I reason to suspect the Milk and Water supply were contaminated. In one case where the patient had been using some pump water, a sample was analysed and the analyst reported it as an exceedingly pure, but hard water, no bacteriological examination was made.

ERYSIPELAS.

Three cases were notified. In one case the disease followed extensive on abraded wounds. Another case occurred in a house where the ashpit and privy were being pulled down and re-built.

PUERPERAL FEVER.

No case was notified. This is the third year in which there was no case notified.

MEASLES.

Not notified. As far as I know only a few cases have occurred during the year.

WHOOPING COUGH.

During the last quarter of the year the disease has been prevalent in the district. Two deaths were registered as due to it.

DIARRHŒA.

During the third quarter of the year Diarrhœa, especially infantile diarrhœa, was very prevalent. Eight deaths were due to it of which six occurred in the third quarter.

INFLUENZA.

This was prevalent during the Spring, on the whole it was of a mild type. Four deaths were registered as due to it, two of which were over 65 years of age,

Hospital Accommodation.—As I have stated in previous Annual Reports, except for cases of Smallpox, which can be removed to the Hyde Hospital for Infectious Diseases, and by the courtesy of the Medical Officer of Health for Stockport, in other cases there are no arrangements for the removal of cases of infectious disease, but it is reported that a proposition has been made which will secure the necessary hospital accommodation.

The Convalescent Hospital and Royal Asylum send their cases to the Monsall Fever Hospital, the Warehousemen and Clerks' Schcol have their own sanatorium.

Sewage Outfall Works.—The filter beds have been in use over 12 months and continue to give a very satisfactory effluent. Crude sewage was turned on to the adjoining land for about three months in the early part of the year, the land was found to take it well and the effluent to be satisfactory. One portion of the sewage scheme has still to be completed, this I am informed will be done as soon as possible.

Improvements.—Five new streets have been opened, which have been lighted, sewered, and channelled. Several old streets have been sewered, and the houses abutting thereon connected up with the sewer. Several ashpits and privies have been pulled down and re-built, and several privies have been re-placed by either water, or waste water, closets. The number of lamps in several of the main roads in the district have been increased, which has very much improved the lighting of the district.

Water Supply.—The water is supplied by the Stockport District Water Works Company and is sufficient for

the needs of the district, and samples have been taken from time to time and submitted to the analyst who reports them as satisfactory. As in previous years, during the summer numerous complaints were made about its hardness and turbidity, which at times rendered it unfit for domestic purposes. Samples of water from various wells were taken from time to time and analysed and in those cases which the analyst reported as not fit for domestic purposes, the Council ordered the wells to be closed, and where possible the Stockport companies water' supplied. Several wells away from the mains have been cleansed, repaired, and covered in.

Slaughter Houses.—These are still unlicensed. I inspected, at the request of your inspector, one which had been for some time disused and had been repaired and altered to his satisfaction, and I advised your Council to license it. I have, with your inspector, inspected all of them, they are clean and well kept.

Dairies and Cowsheds.—Both your inspector and I have visited these from time to time. They are clean and well kept. Samples of milk sold in the district were taken and analysed. The analyst reported them as pure.

Ashpits and Removal of Refuse.—Your inspector has reported on these. I received during the summer numerous complaints about the foul smells arising from them. This was due in most cases to the abuse of the ashpits by the occupiers of the houses. On inspecting I found many full to overflowing, and in my Monthly Reports suggested that some steps should be taken to ensure more frequent emptying. Your inspector informed me that owing to the large increase in the number of houses and also the small size of the new ashpits, the present staff of night-soil men is insufficient, this matter, I think, is under the consideration of the Council

Food and Drugs Act.—Samples were taken and analysed of articles of food exposed for sale. The analyst re-

ported that except one of Butter they were all satisfactory, and said that thebutter was poor but came up to a low standard, and so passed as pure. The vendor was informed of the result of the analysis.

Unwholesome Food.—None, as far as I know, was exposed for sale in the district.

Common Lodging Houses.—None in the district.

Unhealthy Houses.—No house was reported to the Council as unfit for habitation.

Elementary Schools.—I have inspected them from time to time, and found the sanitary arrangements satisfactory and better kept than previously. The playgrounds are now all dry and well drained.

Cemetery.—Negotiations are still in progress. This matter requires no comment.

New Houses.—Ninety-one have been built and occupied during the year, and in every case the requirements of the bye-laws were complied with.

Recreation Ground.—Which was opened last year, continues to be greatly appreciated by the children of the village and sanction has been given for the expenditure of a sum of money for its equipment.

I have made with your Inspector frequent inspections of the district, and in some instances house to house visitations, and where we found alterations necessary these were almost always promptly made. Whenever nuisances were reported to me your Inspector has caused them to be abated.

In conclusion I may state that the year 1897 has shown a steady improvement in the sanitary condition of the district. Your Council recently appointed Mr. Fernley as Inspector of

Nuisances who will devote the whole of his time to his duties, in place of Mr. Sykes, who has found it necessary to resign. I wish on the occasion of his resignation to bear my testimony to his uniform courtesy and efficiency in the discharge of his duties, and express my personal regret on losing his valuable assistance in this department of the sanitary work of the district.

I beg to call the Councils attention to the resolution of the Cheshire County Council, which requires that the Medical Officers of Urban Districts reports to be printed and sent to them before the end of February in each year.

Appended is your Inspector's Annual Report which shows that the work of his department is rapidly increasing year by year.

JOHN H. GODSON, B.A., M.B., B.C. (Cantab),

Medical Officer of Health.

February 9th, 1898.



Tables of Deaths during the Year 1897 in the Cheadle & Gatley Urban District.

(A.) CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO DISEASES, AGES, AND LOCALITIES.

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these statistics ; public institutions being shown as separate localities. (Columns for populations and Births are in table B.)	Mortality from all Cases at Subjoined Ages.						(i)	Mortality from subjoined Causes, distinguishing Deaths of Children under 5 years of age.													
								Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Membranous Croup	Enteric or Typhoid Fever	Whooping Cough.	Diarrhoea and Dysentary	Rheumatic Fever.	Phtthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia, & Pleurisy	Heart Disease.	Influenza.	Injuries.	All other diseases	Total.
	At all Ages	Under 1 year	(d) 1 and under 5	(e) 5 and under 15	(f) 15 and under 25	(g) 25 and under 65																(h) 65 and upwards
Cheadle and Gatley Urban District	113	30	13	3	2	32	33	Under 5 upwards	1	2	7	1	2	6	8	6	4	1	24	29	43
Royal Lunatic Asylum	22	—	—	—	—	15	7	Under 5 upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	20	—	22
Convalescent Hospital	24	—	—	2	7	11	4	Under 5 upwards	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	7	—	—	12	—	24
Warehousemen and Clerks' Schools	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	Under 5 upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Totals.....	160	30	13	6	9	58	44	Under 5 upwards	1	2	7	1	2	10	8	14	4	1	24	62	117

Area and Population of the District or Division to which this Return relates :—

Population (1891) 8255 including institutions).

Population (estimated to middle of 1897) 9595 (including institutions) } General 12·85 { Per 1000 population estimated } (excluding }
 Death Rates { Infants (under 1 year of age) { Per 1000 births } to middle of 1897. } institutions).
 151·5 { registered. }

Area in acres : 5812.

Table of Population, Births, and of New Cases of Infectious Sickness coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the Year 1897, in the Cheadle and Gatley Urban District; classified according to the Diseases, Ages, and Localities:—

(a) Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these Statistics, Public Institutions being shown as Separate Localities.	Population at all Ages.		Registered Births.	New cases of Sickness in each Locality coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.					Number of such cases removed from their Homes in the several localities for treatment in Isolation Hospital.		
	Census 1891.	Estimated to middle of 1897.		Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Group.	Enteric or Typhoid Fever.	Erysipelas.	Scarlatina.	Enteric or Typhoid Fever.	Erysipelas.
	(b)	(c)									
			M 112 F 86								
Cheadle and Gatley Urban District	7540	8790	198	Under 5... 5 upwards..	13 43	— —	— —	— 6	— —	— —	— —
Royal Lunatic Asylum.....	337	408	—	Under 5... 5 upwards..	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
Convalescent Hospital.....	153	155	—	Under 5... 5 upwards..	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
Warehousemen and Clerks' Schools.....	225	242	—	Under 5... 5 upwards..	3 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
Totals.....	8255	9595	198	Under 5... 5 upwards..	13 46	1 —	— 6	— 13	— 5	— 1	— 6

* Sent to Monsall Fever Hospital.

† Treated in their own Sanatorium.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT OF SANITARY WORK COMPLETED DURING THE YEAR 1897.

No. of complaints received during the year, exclusive of Applications							
	<i>re</i> House refuse removal	...	...	...	...	...	16
"	Houses, Premises &c., Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	1140
"	Cases of overcrowding abated...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Results of inspection—Orders Issued for Sanitary Amendments of							
	Houses and Premises	...	...	...	...	...	42
"	" Houses, Premises, &c., Cleansed, Repaired, Whitewashed, &c. ...	..	...	...	...	...	8
"	" Houses Disinfected after illness of an infectious Character	...	...	..	...	...	20
"	" Houses entirely Re-drained and coupled up with Sewage System	...	...	...	...	...	47
"	" Cesspools closed	...	...	...	...	...	4
"	" House Drains Opened, Cleansed and repaired	...	...	...	...	...	16
"	" Midden Privies converted into Water Closets	...	...	...	...	...	14
"	" Privies and Ashpits repaired, covered, and ventilated	...	...	...	...	...	17
"	" Privies and Ashpits, new provided...	...	...	...	...	...	22
"	" Wells Closed	...	...	...	...	...	3
"	" Town's Water Supplied	...	...	...	...	...	7
"	" Samples of well water submitted for analysis	...	...	...	...	...	9
"	" Slopsink waste pipes disconnected from drains, &c., ...	...	..	...	...	...	12
"	" Bath and Lavatory waste pipes, altered and made to comply with modern requirements	...	...	...	...	...	4
"	" Defective indoor W.C's. (" Pan " Closets) abolished and re-placed by modern " Wash-downs "	...	...	...	...	...	4

MISCELLANEOUS.

No. of Lodging-Houses registered under 35th Section of the "Sanitary Act, 1866," or 90th Section of "Public Health Act, 1875,"							—
House Refuse Removed...	...	...	...	...	...	loads	3601
Accumulations of Animal Refuse, Stagnant Water, &c., removed	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Bakehouses Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Slaughterhouses Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Licensed Cowshed and Milk Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Cowsheds entirely re-constructed	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

